

Approved For Release 2003/03/07 : CIA-RDP80R01731R001600080095-7
ALEXANDER SMITH, N. J.
H. ALEXANDER SMITH, N. J.
BOURKE S. HICKENLOOPER, IOWA
WILLIAM LANGER, N. DAK.
HOMER FERGUSON, MICH.
WILLIAM F. KNOWLAND, CALIF.
GEORGE D. AIKEN, VT.
HOMER E. CAPEHART, IND.
WALTER F. GEORGE, GA.
THEODORE FRANCIS GREEN, R. I.
J. W. FULBRIGHT, ARK.
JOHN J. SPARKMAN, ALA.
GUY M. GILLETTE, IOWA
HUBERT H. HUMPHREY, MINN.
MIKE MANSFIELD, MONT.

FRANCIS O. WILCOX, CHIEF OF STAFF
JULIUS N. CAHN, COUNSEL

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

April 1, 1954

PERSONAL

Honorable Allen W. Dulles
Director of Central Intelligence
2430 E Street, NW
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Allen:

Just in case the action of the House on the exchange of persons program has not been brought to your attention, I enclose a short statement about it.

This action is disastrous immediately to the Smith-Mundt program and ultimately will result in the elimination of the program which I sponsored also.

Knowing of your interest in it, I hope you will feel that it is appropriate for you to address a letter to Senator Bridges and Senator Ferguson on the Appropriations Committee of the Senate. It might also be very helpful if you would write to anyone on the House Appropriations Committee whom you know well.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

J. W. Fulbright
J. W. Fulbright

JWF:pns
Encl.

Document No. 109
Review of this document by CIA has determined that
☒ CIA has no objection to declass
☐ It contains information of CIA interest that must remain classified at TS S 6
Authority: HR 70-2

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STAT

EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGES
Effectiveness and House Appropriation Effects

Educational exchanges are the most effective means of influencing rapidly those foreign nationals who are responsible for the formulation of national policy and public opinion in their countries. It is the most important medium for furthering American foreign policy. A survey by Time Magazine, July 1952, revealed the fact that "the cabinet ministers (of 54 countries) considered the exchange of students and visitors the most effective medium for free intercourse of ideas among countries."

It is not a give-away program. The far larger part of its funds are paid to Americans or spent in the United States and is particularly effective because of the joint efforts of private agencies and Government. Government dollars expended bring an unusually large return because of the large amounts of private funds used in conjunction therewith.

Educational exchanges are mutually desired and beneficial to the United States and the other participating countries.

House action would reduce the requested budget from \$15,000,000 to \$9,000,000, of which \$7½ million is in foreign currency, thereby reducing the dollar appropriation approximately 80 per cent.

This action if sustained by the Senate: Would eliminate educational exchanges completely in 46 countries such as Egypt, Turkey, Korea, Iran, Formosa, Indonesia, Spain, and all of the other American republics and would eliminate entirely the extremely important leader program in all countries.

Would permit foreign currency programs in only 21 countries but would not provide any funds for meeting stateside expenses of foreign grantees from those countries, thus reducing the effectiveness of that program.

Would cause the abrogation of the educational exchange provisions of the Buenos Aires Convention at a time when we can ill afford it.

Would eliminate entirely the teacher education program with all other countries. This program is designed to reach foreign youth through their teachers.

Would provide no assistance to private educational exchange programs.

Would eliminate grants-in-aid to American-sponsored schools in Latin America. These schools exemplify the use of a very small amount of American money to create a large influence in furthering American foreign policy.

House action cuts off U.S. educational exchange relationships with two-thirds of the important foreign countries when Communist countries are extending and expanding such activities.

March 10, 1954